GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2622
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE BUSINESS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) has not fulfilled its social obligations of increasing tele-density in semi-urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the BSNL has now decided to enter international Long Distance Business;

(d) whether the BSNL has floated tender in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the BSNL would be eligible for Access Deficit Charge(ADC) after entering ILD business;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the total cost towards capital and operational expenditure with regard to ILD Business?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) BSNL is the only service provider which has made and continues to make significant contribution for penetration of Telecom Services in rural and semi-urban areas. As on 30-06- 2005, more than 136.5 lakhs subscribers in rural areas are being served by BSNL`s basic phone services. BSNL is also providing mobile telephone service (102 lakh customers), which has widespread coverage all over the country.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Yes, Sir, BSNL is providing ILD services w.e.f. September, 2004.

(d) & (e) As part of the ILD business:

(i) BSNL has floated tender for India-Sri Lanka submarine Cable project and it is under finalization.

(ii) EOI (Expression of Interest) has been invited for provisioning of International Bandwidth.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) As per present IUC Regulation of TRAI, the ADC is paid to the Basic Service Operators (BSOs) including BSNL for providing fixed services at affordable tariffs which are below cost. The details are given in the Annexure.

(h) Anticipated Capital Expenditure on ILD business will be approximately Rs. 80 crores.

Annexure

Access Deficit Charge in Rs. Per minute applicable for various type of Calls

Access Charges	Deficit	Local Calls	Intra-circle calls	Inter-Circle calls	ILD Calls

In Rs. per minute

		0-50 kms	> 50 kms	All Distances	Outgoing	Incoming
Fixed - Fixed	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.30	2.50	3.25
Fixed - WLL(M)	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30		
Fixed - Cellular	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30		
WLL(M) - Fixed	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	2.50	3.25
WLL(M) - WLL (M)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30		
WLL (M) - Cellular	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30		
Cellular - Fixed	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	2.50	3.25
Cellular - WLL (M)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30		
Cellular - Cellular	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30		

-- For all Intra-Circle calls from Cellular Mobile / WLL(M) to fixed line, BSNL to be paid the access deficit amount.
-- For all Intra-Circle calls from fixed to Cellular Mobile / WLL(M), the originating service provider to retain the access deficit amount.
-- For Intra-Circle calls from fixed line to fixed line, the originating Service Provider to retain the access deficit amount (local calls and calls within "0 to 50 kms." do not have any access deficit charge). No access deficit charge is payable to the terminating fixed network.
-- For all outgoing Inter-Circle and ILD calls from fixed line, the originating service provider to keep the access deficit amount. No access deficit charge is payable to the terminating fixed network.
-- For all ILD calls to fixed line, BSNL to be paid the access deficit amount by the ILDO (directly or through NLDO, wherever applicable), and the termination charge should be paid to the terminating network.
-- For all Inter-Circle calls from Cellular Mobile / WLL(M) to fixed line, the access deficit charge and termination amount is to be collected by the NLDO from the originating service provider and the access deficit charges should be paid to BSNL and the termination charge should be paid to the terminating service provider.
-- For all Inter-Circle calls from Cellular Mobile and WLL (M) to Cellular Mobile/WLL(M), the access deficit amount is to be collected by the NLDO from the originating service provider and paid to BSNL.
-- For all ILD outgoing and incoming calls from / to Cellular Mobile and WLL (M), the access deficit amount is to be collected by the ILDO and paid to BSNL.

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